

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 309046  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:MPOWENS:JY

APPROVED BY EA:WGLEYSTEEN

L/EA:EVERVILLE

OA:MLANON

EA/VLC:TMCARNEY

CA:AGISE

S/S-O:LRFLEISCHER

-----026345 290027Z /61

O 282358Z DEC 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 309046

EXDIS, MILITARY ADDRESSEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, VM, US

SUBJECT: AMERICAN YACHT BRILLIG

CINCPAC FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE ONLY

1. EMBASSY SHOULD CONVEY FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE TO  
VIETNAMESE LIASON OFFICER: BEGIN TEXT:

A. IN VIEW OF THE ASSURANCE VICE MINISTER PHAN HIEN PROVIDED ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE DECEMBER 19 THAT THE BRILLIG CREW WOULD BE RELEASED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR, WE URGENTLY REQUEST INFORMATION REGARDING THE DATE THE CREW WILL BE RELEASED AND THEIR MEANS OF DEPARTING VIETNAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 309046

B. U.S. GOVERNMENT REQUESTED RESOLUTION OF THE BRILLIG AFFAIR IN KEEPING WITH ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO ITS CITIZENS. IN ADDITION, WE REQUESTED A RESOLUTION BECAUSE OF OUR CONCERN THAT THIS MATTER RISKED BECOMING A SERIOUS IRRITANT IN OUR RELATIONS, GIVEN THE ABSENCE OF SATISFACTORY INFORMATION OR SUBSTANTIATION REGARDING THE SEIZURE AND DETENTION

OF THE BRILLIG.

C. BRILLIG CREW ARE PRIVATE CITIZENS. U.S. GOVERNMENT IS NOT, REPEAT, NOT IN A POSITION TO GIVE ASSURANCES CONCERNING PAYMENT OF A FINE.

D. WITH REGARD TO THE FINE, WE WOULD POINT OUT THAT DURING THE PARIS TALKS, AND IN A SUBSEQUENT PRESS RELEASE OF DECEMBER 24, THE VIETNAMESE SIDE DID NOT INDICATE THAT THIS AFFAIR WOULD INVOLVE A HEAVY FINANCIAL PENALTY. RATHER, VIETNAMESE SIDE SUGGESTED AFFAIR WAS RESOLVED, AND ONLY FORMALITIES REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT. WE ARE DISTURBED THAT THE VIETNAMESE SIDE HAS NOW BROACHED THE MATTER OF A MASSIVE FINE, WITH ONLY THREE DAYS REMAINING IN PERIOD DURING WHICH CREW IS TO BE RELEASED. END TEXT,

2. FYI. OUR MAJOR INTEREST IN THIS MATTER REMAINS OF COURSE THE SPEEDY RELEASE OF THE CREW. WE WOULD NOT WANT THEIR DEPARTURE HELD UP PENDING A DECISION TO RELEASE THE VESSEL. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BRILLIG  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 28-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE309046  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MPOWENS:JY  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770483-1299  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771210/aaaaaide.tel  
**Line Count:** 82  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** e9e720fb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 103094  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AMERICAN YACHT BRILLIG CINCPAC FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE ONLY  
**TAGS:** CASC, VM, US  
**To:** PARIS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/e9e720fb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009